



Sheriff Patrick Boggs

Mason County Sheriff

Patrick Boggs is currently serving in his second term as sheriff of Mason County after being elected in 2006. Boggs holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Kentucky Wesleyan College. In 1997, Boggs served as a deputy jailer in Mason County before joining the Mason County Sheriff's Office as a deputy sheriff. Boggs and his wife of 10 years, Kristy, have two daughters, Avra and Aleah.

WHAT PROACTIVE STANCE HAS YOUR DEPARTMENT TAKEN SINCE YOU BECAME SHERIFF OF MASON COUNTY?

The Mason County Sheriff's Office has become a self-sufficient law enforcement agency by utilizing all its internal resources. We took the certified deputies out of the court house and initiated the court security officers program, enabling the trained deputies to patrol the roads and investigate crimes. By increasing patrols we have been a proactive, more visible law enforcement force in the county. We also have initiated a narcotics investigation team that has produced tremendous results. The drug-related arrests are up more than 100 percent and the value of the drugs taken off the streets is in excess of \$200,000. The sheriff's office has become more involved in the community by joining forces with other organizations for education about drugs.

The Mason County Sheriff's Office, like the majority of law enforcement agencies, has had to endure budget cuts. We have taken an aggressive approach in seeking alternate funding to supplement those cuts. Mason County has entered into inter-local agreements with surrounding

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agencies that enables more visibility and coverage while saving on fuel and cruiser maintenance. Grants are a priority in our tight budget times; we are continuously seeking funds for new equipment and overtime from these sources. Since 2007, the Mason County Sheriff's Office has received close to \$250,000 in grants for equipment and overtime. It is imperative in today's world that law enforcement remains equal to the criminal element, we can't fall behind or our communities suffer. I believe that the Mason County Sheriff's Office has become a proactive agency with the changes that have been made.

WHAT MAKES YOUR DEPARTMENT STAND OUT ABOVE THE REST?

The Mason County Sheriff's Office is constantly updating and changing with the times. We are continuously exploring innovative ideas and equipment introduced to the law enforcement community. I feel that we have become a law enforcement agency that the people of Mason County and the surrounding area can depend on for immediate and professional response. Since education and training are key aspects that all law enforcement must rely on, we encourage more training and education in our office. After receiving new training, deputies are expected and encouraged to take this knowledge to the next level and incorporate it into their daily techniques. The Mason County Sheriff's Office is now set apart by clear missions, and strategic vision and leadership.

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT FEATURE YOU THINK EVERY

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT DNA EVIDENCE?

DNA evidence is being used more and more to assist in the conviction or clearance of charges. The most important feature officers should be aware of would be the contamination of possible DNA evidence. The collection and preservation of the evidence is key for trial, and one must be aware of all the aspects in which it could be contaminated. A simple sneeze or cough, not wearing gloves, or even a piece of hair falling out could contaminate the evidence and eliminate possible proof of the crime.

WHAT ARE YOUR LONG-TERM PLANS AND GOALS FOR THE DEPARTMENT?

My expectations have far been exceeded since being sworn in as sheriff, but as old goals are accomplished, new goals must arise. I believe that each agency must challenge itself to meet and confront the growing trends in technology and how they are applied to law enforcement. Deputies are currently being trained in the newest and most advanced methods for combating computer and cyber crimes. In the future, it is my plan to have individual deputies trained in specific curriculums so that the Mason County Sheriff's Office will have more resources available.

